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Message Text

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20
ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 /073 W
---------- 083599
R 170636Z DEC 74
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2333
INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USCINCEUR (BY POUCH)

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS PINT ET
SUBJECT: PURGE OF OLD ORDER CIVIL SERVANTS AND SELECTED
MILITARY OFFICERS

REF: USDAO 0797DEC74

1. BROTHER OF LATE MININFO (TESFAYE GEBRE-EGZY) EXECUTED ON NOVEMBER 23, GENERAL ASSEFA GEBRE-EGZY, FORMER COMMANDER ETHIOPIAN AIR FORCE, WHO HAD BEEN PREPARING TAKE UP NEW DUTIES IN PRIMIN'S OFFICE, RECEIVED NOTIFICATION OF HIS DISMISSAL AND (EARLY) REITIREMENT ON DECEMBER 13.

2. ASSEFA GEBRE-EGZY TOLD OUR INFORMANT THAT HE IS AWARE THAT SIMILAR NOTICES WENT TO AT LEAST 20 OTHER RELATIVES OF MEN EXECUTED ON NOVEMBER 23. GROUP IN QUESTION INCLUDES SOME (UNSPECIFIED - - CF REF IR) MILITARY OFFICERS, ALL OF WHOM ALSO TOLD THEY WOULD BE RETIRED EARLY.
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3. ASSEFA GEBRE-EBZY TOLD INFORMANT HE HAD DISCUSSED DISMISSAL/RETIREMENT NOTICES WITH COLLEAGUES AND OTHER CIVIL SERVANTS RELATED TO THOSE EXECUTED AND/OR PRISONERS STILL BEING DETAINED BY PMAC. MANY OF HIS INTERLOCUTORS HAD SAID THAT PRESSURE UPON THEM IS RISING AT WORK; THAT THEY ARE BEING ISOLATED; ASSIGNMENTS ARE BEING TAKEN FROM THEM AND, IN SHORT, THAT THEY EXPECT TO BE FORCED OUT SOON.

4. COMMENT: ASSEFA GEBRE-EGZY'S DISMISSAL IS ALSO ASSOCIATED WITH CONTINUING EPMG EFFORTS REDUCE NUMBER OF GENERAL OFFICERS IN ETHIOPIA'S ARMED FORCES AND CLEAN OUT OLD ORDER DEADWOOD. HIS STATEMENTS SUGGEST THAT SIMILAR EFFORT IS BEGINNING TO ROLL IN NATION'S CIVIL ADMINISTRATION. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, WE HAVE RECEIVED INDICATIONS FROM OTHER WELL-PLACED SOURCES (MEMCON DATED DECEMBER 16, 1974) THAT ETHIOPIA'S NEW LEADERSHIP IS INTENT ON STREAMLINING THE COUNTRY'S ADMINISTRATION TO ERASE THE VESTIGES OF PAST PRACTICES JUDGED DELETERIOUS TO DEVELOPMENT AND TO ELIMINATE POLITICAL OPPONENTS, ACTUAL OR POTENTIAL. THAT PROCESS NOW APPEARS TO BE IN COURSE.
WYMAN

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